

The following are the Rates per thousand for England and Wales for the year 1906 :—

	Birth	Death (all causes).	Death (zymotic).	Infantile Mortality.
England and Wales	27'0	15'4	1'73	133
Rural England and Wales . .	26'3	15'0	1'18	115
76 great Towns	27'9	16'0	2'24	146
142 smaller Towns	26'5	14'4	1' 7	138

A comparison of these Tables shews that the Birth and Death Rates are lower than, and that the Zymotic Death Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate are about the same as, the Rates in other Districts similar to your own.

THE DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate from all causes and at all ages was 10'7, which is the lowest but one on record, and is rather more than two-thirds of the average of the past ten years. The Infant Mortality rate, however, although below the average, is higher than in 1905, and further observation with regard to this will appear later in the Report.

The following Table shows the three low-rate years of 1903, 1905, and 1906, compared with the year 1904, which was about an average year :—

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES AND AT ALL AGES.

	1903	1904	1905	1906
Measles	2	17	0	3
Scarlet Fever	0	2	1	1
Whooping Cough	0	2	10	1
Diphtheria	1	4	3	8
Enteric Fever	6	8	6	5
Epidemic Influenza	2	1	0	1
Diarrhoea	9	45	17	40
Enteritis	8	7	5	0
Puerperal Fever	0	1	0	0
Erysipelas	0	2	0	0
Other septic diseases	14	13	6	14
Phthisis	31	38	35	32
Other tubercular diseases	13	15	15	16
Cancer, malignant disease	25	24	22	23
Bronchitis	28	56	39	21
Pneumonia	17	34	22	21
Pleurisy	0	3	0	0
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	4	0	5	6
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	4	4	5	6
Venereal Diseases	2	1	5	2
Premature Birth	13	19	14	25
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	4	4	2	3
Heart Diseases	29	48	28	21
Accidents	7	8	12	13
Suicides	4	1	2	2
Apoplexy	12	13	16	13
Not certified	0	15	0	14
All other causes	97	101	89	67
Total	332	486	359	358

This table shows that deaths from the following diseases remain about the same, both in low rate and average rate years.

- Enteric Fever.
- Phthisis.
- Other tubercular diseases.
- Cancer,
- Alcoholism.
- Apoplexy.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Table shewing number of Deaths for past ten years.

	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Total.	Death Rate per 1000.
1897	0	0	2	26	15	7	34	84	2·9
1898	0	5	3	1	6	5	37	57	1·9
1899	0	19	8	5	17	3	49	101	3·3
1900	0	1	1	3	5	5	28	43	1·4
1901	0	3	1	9	7	10	22	52	1·6
1902	9	12	2	7	8	3	16	57	1·8
1903	0	2	0	1	0	6	9	18	·56
1904	0	17	2	4	2	8	45	78	2·4
1905	0	0	1	3	10	6	17	37	1·13
1906	0	3	1	8	1	5	40	58	1·74

The average Death Rate for the past ten years is 1·87.

For the first time deaths of Infants under the age of one year dying from other Diarrhœal diseases (see Table V.) have this year been considered as deaths from Diarrhœa, and so helped to increase the Zymotic Death Rate, which, if reckoned as in former years, would have been 1·41.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT,

The following Notifications were received during the year.—

Parish.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Total.
Strood and Frindsbury	20	53	20	26	0	119
St. Margaret's	40	17	6	4	1	68
St. Nicholas.....	1	2	1	2	0	6
Chatham Intra	0	0	0	2	0	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	61	72	27	34	1	195

Phthisis has been voluntarily notifiable during the year, and the figures relating thereto will be found under the heading of "Phthisis."

From the above Table it will be seen that the Medway Division furnishes 76 notifications, and Strood 119.

The following Table shews from whence the Notifications come and the average for ten years.

		Medway.		Strood.		Total.
1896	..	152	..	268	..	420
1897	..	198	..	173	..	371
1898	..	175	..	77	..	252
1899	..	154	..	269	..	423
1900	..	80	..	105	..	185
1901	..	135	..	107	..	242
1902	..	157	..	90	..	247
1903	..	145	..	77	..	222
1904	..	91	..	84	..	175
1905	..	68	..	72	..	140
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Average for years						
1896-1905	..	135·5	..	132·2	..	267·7
		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
1906	..	76	..	119	..	195

The result for 1906, although well below the average, is not so satisfactory as in the two preceding years, more especially with regard to Strood. This is nearly all accounted for by an outbreak of Diphtheria which furnished from Strood alone 41 more notifications than in 1905. Further remarks with regard to this will be made under the heading of "Diphtheria."

SMALL POX.

No cases were notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Sixty-one cases were notified, and there was one death; 49 cases were removed to Hospital. In 1905 there were 43 cases and 30 removals, in 1904 56 cases and 43 removals. That 49 out of 61 cases should be removed to Hospital shews at the same time a remarkable appreciation of the virtue of Isolation and of the popularity of the Hospital. The District has, in my opinion, been during the last six months of 1906 extremely fortunate in the matter of Scarlet Fever, since closely neighbouring Districts have been the victims of considerable outbreaks of this disease. The Medical Practitioners of your District have spared no pains in assisting the Health Department in dealing with Scarlet Fever, sending in their notifications at the earliest moment, often by hand or telephone, and have obviously used their great influence in inducing parents to consent to the removal of their children. On the other hand the Sanitary Officials and those concerned with the removal of patients have acted with commendable promptitude, with the result that, as I believe, an extensive and expensive outbreak of Scarlet Fever has been avoided.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

There were three deaths from Measles and one from Whooping Cough. There were 10 deaths from these diseases in 1905, and 19 in 1904. This shews a very satisfactory diminution, and is no doubt partly due to the fact that no child is now permitted to attend the Elementary Schools until five years old, under which age these diseases are not only more communicable but more likely to be fatal if contracted. There must therefore be something gained, but it is well to remember that as in one year few cases arise so in the next year will there be a larger quantity of more or less susceptible material.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

Seventy-two cases were notified and there were eight deaths: 51 cases were removed to Hospital. In 1905 there were 31 cases and 21 removals, in 1904 44 cases and 16 removals. This large number of Diphtheria cases is I think the worst feature of the whole Report. Fifty-three of the cases came from Strood, and by far the majority of them were connected with the Infants' Department of the Gordon Road Schools. School closure was not employed, as the rapid increase of notifications occurred just before the holidays. No source of milk supply came under the slightest suspicion. The cases never became so frequent or numerous as to constitute an epidemic, and in fact, with the exception of a week or two, were spread over months. I can only repeat what has been emphasised in previous Reports, that the present system of sewage disposal in your District is highly favourable to the spread of those three diseases which most commonly attend insanitary surroundings, namely, Epidemic Diarrhœa, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever. In this District these diseases are endemic, and under existing conditions it is a matter for congratulation that we usually escape so cheaply.

Steps were taken of a special nature to limit the cases of Diphtheria by the issuing of notices to teachers to exclude from School all Infants with the slightest suspicion of sore throat, and by the provision at the Police Station of a supply of Anti-Diphtheritic Serum, which can be obtained by every Medical Practitioner, day or night; if necessary, free of cost.

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.

There were 34 notifications and 5 deaths; 21 cases were removed to Hospital. In 1905 there were 34 cases and 25 removals, in 1904 39 cases and 26 removals.

From this it appears that the number of cases of Enteric Fever in the District remains about constant year by year. An appreciable proportion of the cases is undoubtedly due to the consumption of sewage polluted shell-fish gathered in the River Medway, but Enteric Fever will never be absent from a district in which cesspools and open privies abound. With regard to Shell-Fish, the people have been warned by the distribution of over 4,000 leaflets, advising them to abstain from eating such food unless previously well cooked, or obtained from a source beyond the suspicion of sewage contamination.

DIARRHŒA AND INFANT MORTALITY.

Seven hundred and ninety-nine children were born in the District in 1906, and there were 107 deaths of infants under the age of one year, giving a rate of 133·9 deaths per 1,000 births registered. The average rate for the last 10 years is 145·9; the highest rate was in 1899, when it was 199, and the lowest in 1903, when it was 89. The principle factor in raising or lowering the infantile death rate in any one year is respectively the large or small number of deaths from Diarrhœa and kindred diseases. Thus in 1903 there were 12 deaths from these diseases, while last year there were 36. There is always more mortality from these causes in hot dry summers than in cold wet ones; not that the dry heat kills the infants, but because in such seasons it is more difficult to keep pure the food on which they are principally nourished. It is the problem, and an exceedingly difficult one, but none the more to be avoided, to amend the conditions under which the expectant mother and her offspring have to live. A large proportion of infantile deaths, perhaps 2 out of 4, are preventable, and the matter largely resolves into the care of the mother and the feeding of the infant. An infant for the first eight or ten months of its life should be suckled; failing this, it should have a proper amount of pure clean cow's milk, an article, as will be presently shown, most difficult to obtain. With regard to the suckling of infants, the following facts are of the deepest interest.

Dr. Howarth, of Derby, read a paper in 1905, before the Derby Medical Society, in which he gave the following figures of deaths from Diarrhœa and Epidemic Enteritis in infants under one year:—

Nature of Feeding.	Number of Infants.	Deaths per 1,000.
Breast fed	5278	8·6
First breast and afterwards hand fed ..	1430	21·6
Hand fed	1626	51·7

These figures speak for themselves, comment is unnecessary.

It is a remarkable fact that when times are bad, work scarce, and wages low, Infant Mortality declines. This has often been demonstrated, particularly during the siege of Paris, and probably means that under such conditions the mothers do not go out to work either before or after the birth of the child; that they can less well afford to buy artificial food, and so have to suckle their children, that they themselves are living on the plainest, which is usually the most wholesome fare; and finally, that they have much less money to spend on alcoholic fluids and on amusements which take them away from their domestic duties. In an ideal state no child-bearing woman should ever go out to work, or at all events for at least 3 months before and for 6 months after the birth of her child. The first period should be spent in preparing for maternity, and the second in giving her infant a proper start in life. The death of no less than 25 infants was last year in your District attributed to Premature Birth, that is to say to causes largely avoidable. These 25 deaths together with the 36 attributed to Diarrhœa together account for more than half the total.

The practice of child-bearing women going out to work, whether in the fields, factories, laundries, or elsewhere, is greatly to be deplored, its evils are manifest, and its sole advantage is the earning of money, in most cases an apparent advantage only, since the extra means thus acquired are too often spent in the harmful directions above referred to.

Before proceeding to discuss remedies for this state of affairs it is desirable to consider the question of the feeding of those infants who are not or cannot be nourished at the breast. Cow's milk is the sheet anchor in all these cases, and is, properly prepared, the only substitute for mother's milk of any degree of efficiency. How deplorable is it then to reflect that under existing conditions many hand-fed infants never get a pure, clean, uncontaminated spoonful of fresh cow's milk. It will be fair to say at once that this is not always the fault of the cowkeeper, the milk itself constitutes an admirable medium for the cultivation of germs, more or less harmful, and the extraordinary rapidity with which these multiply in milk under suitable, and I regret to say generally existing conditions, is almost incredible.

Nevertheless the fact remains that as milk leaves the udder of a healthy cow, it is sterile, that is to say it contains no germs whatever. Those that are usually found in it at a later date, and they may number millions upon millions in a very small quantity, are the product of adventitiously introduced foreign matter. There are numerous avenues for their admission. Ungroomed cows, unwashed teats, unwashed milkers' hands, dust in cowsheds, imperfectly cleansed milking receptacles, dust during transit by rail or otherwise, dust in street each time milk is taken from the can, dust in shops where milk is sold, contamination in house after milk is delivered, and many other sources. There is in the Health Office an apparatus for estimating dirt in milk, the invention of Dr. Barwise, Medical Officer of Health for the County of Derbyshire. I have tested samples of milk purchased in the shops and in the street with this appliance, and the quantity of débris generally discovered is, to say the least of it, startling. How many millions of germs must there be in the same sample? This apparently almost unavoidable contamination of milk has engaged great attention in all parts of the country, and many means have been tried to neutralize its ill-effect. Amongst them are sterilization, pasteurization, and the provision of sterilized milk in sterilized bottles at Municipal Dépôts. It is better to sterilize a badly contaminated milk by boiling than to consume it in its natural state, but unfortunately the process of boiling robs milk of certain of its most digestible and nutritive qualities, and it has been found that infants reared on boiled milk are apt to develop rickets and other symptoms of malnutrition. At its best the sterilization of milk is but a stop-gap and does not go to the root of the matter, to say nothing of the fact that while this so-called sterilization kills germs it may not affect certain noxious qualities which the germs may have produced in the milk before their death.

In this connection the question of milk from healthy cows has only yet been considered. There is an ever present danger that milk from healthy cows may be mixed with milk from cows suffering from Tuberculosis. About 6 years ago Dr. Koch, the discoverer of the germ of Tuberculosis, startled the scientific world by declaring that in his opinion Bovine and Human Tuberculosis were not the same disease, that is to say not inter-communicable. This statement coming from such high authority was eminently calculated to encourage a certain degree of laxity in the disposal of milk from tuberculous cows, or, put in another way, the question of harm in the consumption of such milk became unsettled and thus undoubtedly slight degrees of tuberculous infection in this food were by way of being disregarded. In view of the importance of the matter a Royal Commission was appointed in 1901, and their second interim report has lately been issued. The following are their conclusions:—


“The facts indicate that a very large proportion of Tuberculosis contracted by digestion is due to Bacilli of Bovine source. A very considerable amount of disease and loss of life especially amongst the young must be attributed to cows' milk containing Tubercle Bacilli. The presence of Tubercle Bacilli in cows' milk can be detected, though with some difficulty, if the proper means be adopted, and such milk never ought to be used as food. There is far less difficulty in recognizing clinically that a cow is distinctly suffering from Tuberculosis in which case she may be yielding Tuberculous milk. The milk coming from such a cow ought not to form part of human food, and indeed, ought not to be used as food at all. Our results clearly point to the necessity of measures more stringent than those at present enforced being taken to prevent the sale or consumption of such milk.”

To review the whole subject, there appear to be 4 main directions in which means should be taken in the effort to diminish Infant Mortality—

1. Care and education of the mother.
2. Education of the elder female children in schools.
3. Guarding of cows' milk from adventitious contamination.
4. Securing that no Tuberculous milk is consumed.

1. Under existing conditions knowledge of the birth of a child may not reach the Health Office until 3 months afterwards. During this time the child may have died, or have become weakly by reason of improper care and feeding, and the mother of course has received no care and information at all. Notification of pregnancy, at all events in the poorer classes, would be of great value in providing the Department with information upon which it could act, with no doubt, great advantage both to mother and child. An inducement would have to be held out to the pregnant women to cause them to notify, a shilling or two would probably be sufficient, and the small sum for this purpose could, I should think, be easily obtained from charitable persons. After notification the person could be visited and educated by Health Visitors. In some Districts this is undertaken by the wives of the Clergy and others connected with religious organizations, but the most suitable person is a properly qualified Lady Inspector, and such a one would be of great service in your District.

2. Every female child in the higher standards of the Schools should receive instruction in the elementary principles of Hygiene and how to feed, wash and clothe a baby. They often have to do it at home without any knowledge whatsoever.



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3. This is the most difficult question of all. Much milk reaches your District from farms far outside the District, and you have no control over the circumstances under which this milk is drawn from the cow, stored and carried. You can prosecute in the event of adulteration, or the addition of preservatives, but you are practically helpless so far as regards contamination by the numerous varieties of filth which in so many directions gain access to milk. I believe that the decline of the practice of suckling infants, the aggregation of people into Urban Districts, and the information gained by the rapid advance in recent years in the science in Bacteriology, have together lifted the question of the milk supply into an altogether unique position. The situation is new. Such being the case it will probably be necessary to abandon most of the old methods and to devise some means by which pure, clean milk from a healthy cow can be conveyed direct to the consumer, and reach him uncontaminated. All dairies should be under rigid inspection, and their produce conveyed, whether to the consumer or to the milk shop in separate, sterile, sealed vessels. This would of course raise the price of milk and may not be thought practicable, but the matter in the end will result in a conflict between efficiency and cost, and in any case it is better to give an infant a smaller quantity of pure, clean milk than a larger quantity of the contaminated fluid which under existing circumstances so often passes muster for the same article.

4. There are far more Tuberculous cows in the country than is commonly supposed. The animals of all cowsheds where milk is produced should be periodically and systematically inspected by a Veterinary Surgeon, who should report fully to you

PHTHISIS.

There were thirty-two deaths, in 1905 there were thirty-five, and in 1904 thirty eight deaths. Phthisis is voluntarily notifiable in the district, and twenty-two notifications were received. The chief agents in the spread of Phthisis are dark, damp, ill-ventilated dwellings, and carelessness in the management of persons suffering from the disease. It is the duty of the Local Sanitary Authority to be constantly endeavouring to improve the condition of the poorer class dwellings; houses without through ventilation, without proper paving around, without sufficient air space around, houses with open privies and cesspools in their immediate proximity, houses ill-lighted or damp, all these are admirably conditioned for the spread of Phthisis, and it is in such that most of the cases arise. At the same time, while the Sanitary Authority is gradually working to amend these conditions the people themselves are not without responsibility. They must learn that Phthisis is a highly infectious and fatal disease, and that a person suffering from it is a danger to those around him in just the same way as one suffering from Small Pox is. It is for this reason that, in my opinion, Phthisis should be made compulsorily notifiable. Every case would then get definite printed instruction as to the dangers and management, whereas at the present time only a portion do. But above all I place the importance of educating the children in the elementary schools in the principles of personal and domestic hygiene. The adults of the present day are in many cases, I am afraid, beyond the reach of education in this respect, but the children of to-day will be the adults of to-morrow, and if the Sanitary Authority is working along one line to improve the condition of the dwellings and the children are being taught along another line to understand and appreciate the virtues of cleanliness, a point may be presently reached where not only Phthisis but many other diseases will find it more difficult to thrive.

Deaths from Phthisis are notified at once by the Registrars, and the rooms in which the patients die are disinfected. Bedding, clothing, &c., are similarly treated in most cases.

HORSES AND CATTLE.

Mr. E. Ebbetts, the City Veterinary Inspector, reports that during the year the District has been quite free from disease of a contagious nature.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 19 of these on the Register, none of which are underground. In 1905 there were 20. All have been systematically inspected and are generally clean and in good condition. Fourteen minor defects were discovered and rectified.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—These number 213, in 1905 there were 218. They have all been systematically inspected and the following defects discovered and rectified:—overcrowding 2, want of cleanliness 13, insufficient ventilation 8, unsuitable or insufficient sanitary accommodation 6, minor defects 8, total 37. In 1905 there were also 37 defects. No prosecutions were necessary.

HOMEWORK.—As far as known homework is carried on in 44 premises. These have been systematically inspected and found to be generally clean. No case of infectious disease was discovered. As the employers of homeworkers have failed to send in their lists this number 44 is probably incorrect. The matter has been brought before the Health Committee, who have instructed the Town Clerk to remind the employers of their obligations under the Act.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Seven milkshops have been struck off the register and one added, leaving the total at 29; in 1905 it was 35. It is very desirable to decrease the number of general shops in which milk is sold, as under the conditions usually existing in such places it is practically impossible to properly guard the milk from dust. Every milk vendor is required to keep his vessels clean and covered, but no requirements, however faithfully observed, can make a general shop a suitable place in which to store milk.

COWSHEDS.—There are now ten of these, in 1905 there were twelve. All are systematically inspected and on the whole meet the requirements of existing regulations. That these regulations are insufficient is another matter and is more fully referred to in an earlier part of the Report.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The number of these has declined from nine in 1905 to seven. So far as private slaughter houses, often of ancient date and situated in populous parts of the District, can be satisfactory, these are. They are frequently inspected and are certainly more in accord with the Bye Laws than at any previous time.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

All have been fumigated as in previous years. 3,000 school slates were sterilized at the Corporation Dépôt. The use of slates in schools is to be deprecated, as these articles undoubtedly favour the spread of infection.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Analyses performed under the Act during the year.

Article.		Total.	Formally Taken.	Adulterated.	Informally Taken.	Adulterated.
Milk ..	..	36	24	6	12	
Butter ..	..	17	14	—	3	
Cheese ..	..	4	3	—	1	
Lard ..	..	2	2	—	—	
Margarine ..	..	7	6	1	1	
Ground Rice ..	..	2	1	—	1	
Vinegar ..	..	2	—	—	2	
Seidlitz Powders ..	..	2	—	—	2	
Tin Corned Beef ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin BLOATER Paste ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Tongue ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Rabbit ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Salmon ..	..	2	—	—	2	
Tin Ox-Tail Soup ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Lobster ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Roast Beef ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Roast Mutton ..	..	1	—	—	1	
Tin Sardines ..	..	2	—	—	2	
		84	50	7	34	
No. of Sample.	Result of Proceedings.					Remarks.
74	Milk ..	24 per cent. deficit in milk fat.			..	Third conviction.
		Fined £3/19/6, costs £1/0/6.				
116	Milk ..	Added water 11·8 per cent.			..	First conviction.
		Fined £1, costs 19/6.				
123	Milk ..	19 per cent. deficit in milk fat.			..	Second conviction.
		Fined £1, costs £1/2/6.				
127	Milk ..	44·7 per cent. deficit in milk fat.			..	First conviction.
		Fined £1/0/6, costs 19/6.				
85	Milk ..	Slightly deficient in milk fat.			..	Cautioned.
139	Milk ..	Slightly deficient in milk fat.			..	Cautioned.
71	Margarine ..	2 per cent. excess of water.			..	Cautioned.

These samples were taken at the rate of six a month, except the tinned foods which were taken all together about the time the Chicago meat scandals were at their height. The samples of tinned food were of both home and foreign production, and were declared by the Analysts to be free from colouring or preservative agents, and to be pure and wholesome. The results were communicated to the Local Government Board.

The per centage of Milk adulterations was 16·6 as against 34·4 in 1905 and 34·6 in 1904. The City Analysts now also examine samples of milk in order to detect, if present, added preservatives such as Formalin or Boric Acid, and if such are discovered prosecutions will follow.

Per centage of all adulterations—1906, 8·3; 1905, 22·2; 1904, 22·1; 1903, 33·3.

LOCAL RAINFALL IN 1906.

By the courtesy of the City Surveyor I am able to give the following information, which was obtained at Strood Water Works, situated in the District:—

Month.	Total depth Inches.	Greatest fall in 24 hours Inches.	Date.	Number of days on which '01 or more fell.
January ..	3·63	1·19	16	19
February ..	1·80	·46	17	18
March ..	1·29	·20	10	19
April ..	·63	·21	18	8
May ..	1·51	·58	20	10
June ..	2·19	1·00	28	7
July ..	1·73	1·17	27	8
August ..	·66	·19	24	7
September ..	1·29	·52	4	11
October ..	3·96	·82	30	18
November ..	4·74	·63	8	16
December ..	1·59	·34	13	19
25·02				160

THE MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.

This Act came into operation on April 1st, 1903, and provides that any person properly qualified by recognised examinations, or producing evidence of having been in bona fide practice as a Midwife prior to April, 1901, may be enrolled by the Central Midwives Board as a Midwife. After April 1st, 1905, no person may hold herself out as a Midwife unless so enrolled, and after April 1st, 1910, no person may practice Midwifery under any circumstances unless so enrolled. This Act, of course, does not apply to registered Medical Practitioners. These enrolled Midwives are subject to certain rules of conduct laid down by the Central Board, and are accountable for their behaviour; first to the Local Supervising Authority, which is the Midwives Committee of the

Town Council, and finally to the Central Midwives Board. They are expected to make themselves acquainted with their duties and obligations, and are under the immediate supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, who assists them in every way in this direction. They, their homes, their clothing, their appliances, their books, and general conduct are systematically supervised and inspected, and any considerable infraction of the Rules laid down by the Central Board is reported to the Midwives Committee.

In this District there are sixteen Midwives, most of whom appear to be fairly competent. Some, however, are quite illiterate and profoundly ignorant. These, by good fortune, escape, at all events up to the present, serious misdemeanours, and are kept under closer observation than those in whom it is considered greater confidence can be placed. When, in process of time, those women who are registered by virtue of having been in practice prior to 1901 shall have ceased to practice, the full advantages of the Act will begin to be reaped, and the poorer women of the population will be attended in labour with a degree of skill which has in most cases in the past been lamentably small.

During the year the following have been received—

Notifications of still-birth	..	..	10
Notifications of sending for Medical assistance	..	..	23

One Midwife was brought before the Midwives' Committee on a charge of persistent neglect of Rules, and was severely reprimanded. The Committee did not consider the offence sufficiently grave to be reported to the Central Board. The conduct of this Midwife has subsequently improved.

There has been no case of Puerperal Fever during the year in the practice of the Midwives.

Every Midwife is obliged to send for Medical aid in cases of certain specified difficulties, but no provision is made in the Act for the payment of such Medical aid. As no complaint respecting this has been received from any local practitioner it is to be presumed that somebody pays, or that the services are cheerfully given gratis.

UNSOUND FOOD.

One carcase of tuberculous beef and 7 boxes of mackerel were condemned and destroyed. No magisterial proceedings were necessary.

BACK-TO-BACK HOUSES.

The following are the Vital Statistics for the last three years :—

	1906	1905	1904
Number of deaths	9	12	20
Death Rate	10.6	14.2	23.7
Deaths of Adults over 15 years	5	4	9
Deaths of Children under 15 years	4	8	11
Number of deaths from tubercular or lung disease	3	3	12

The only observation to be made on the diminished mortality in these houses in 1906 is that the inmates have been extremely fortunate during the year.

NUISANCES REMEDIED.

Houses without drains or reconstructed	..	..	..	63
„ provided with new w c's.	..	..	..	22
„ „ „ ashpits or dustbins	..	..	..	12
„ „ „ shooting or repaired	..	..	..	57
„ cleansed and whitewashed	..	..	..	13
„ fumigated	..	..	..	123
„ overcrowded	..	..	..	5
„ unfit for habitation	..	..	..	0
House roofs repaired	..	..	..	50
Drains trapped and ventilated	..	..	..	51
„ repaired and cleansed	..	..	..	175
„ stoppage in	..	..	..	163
„ defective traps removed and trapped stoneware gullies fixed	..	..	..	202
Water closets substituted for privies	..	..	..	16
„ provided with water supply and flushing apparatus	..	..	..	54
„ repaired and cleansed	..	..	..	47
„ defective water fittings	..	..	..	50
Privies, dangerous and defective structure	..	..	..	47
„ defective pits	..	..	..	44
„ constructed	..	..	..	2
Cesspools, insufficient accommodation	..	..	..	40
„ defective	..	..	..	44
„ unventilated	..	..	..	61
„ constructed	..	..	..	18
Soil pipes and drains ventilated	..	..	..	43
Old pan closets with container and D trap removed	..	..	..	6
Urinals altered and repaired	..	..	..	2
Sink and other waste pipes disconnected from drains	..	..	..	59
Stables drained and paved	..	..	..	10
Yards of dwellings provided with new concrete paving or repaired	..	..	..	77
Yards and premises in dirty condition	..	..	..	5
Manure removed	..	..	..	13
Cowsheds, bakehouses, and slaughter-houses cleansed	..	..	..	17
Removed pigs, poultry, and other animals	..	..	..	25

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES & HOMEWORK.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ..	4		None.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	447	8	
Workplaces	91	2	
Total	542	10	

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	9	19		
Want of ventilation	8	7		
Overcrowding	3	3		
Want of drainage of floors	2	2		
Other Nuisances	12	12		
Sanitary accommo- dation { insufficient	7	5		
unsuitable or defective				
not separate for sexes..				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)				
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107) ..				
Giving out work to be done in premises { unwholesome (S. 108)				
which are { infected (S. 100) ..				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premi- ses infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S. 109)				
Other offences				
Total	51	48		

3—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.										Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—										
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133) ..										
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (Sec. 5) {										Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors.
Other										
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—										
In use during 1906										
Certificates granted {										in 1905 in 1906
In use at the end of 1906										
Homework :—										
Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—										
Lists received										
Addresses of outworkers .. {										forwarded to other Authorities .. received from other Authorities ..
Number of Inspections of outworkers' premises.. .. .										
Homework in unwholesome or infected premises :—										
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)										
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises ..										
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises										
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1906										
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bake- houses may be enu- merated here.	Workshops									213
	Bakehouses									19
	Total number of Workshops on Register ..									232

TABLE I. ROCHESTER.—For Whole District.

YEAR.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.*	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Total Deaths at all ages.	Total Death Rate.*	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in District.	Deaths of Resi- dents registered beyond District.	Deaths at all Ages. Nett.	Death Rate* at all Ages. Nett.
1896 ..	28440	818	28·7	112	136	564	19·8	161	112	11	463	16·2
1897 ..	28870	794	27·5	117	147	481	16·6	133	90	14	405	14·0
1898 ..	29300	800	27·3	145	182	638	21·7	191	151	22	509	17·3
1899 ..	29730	809	27·2	161	199	642	21·5	194	113	21	550	18·4
1900 ..	30160	813	26·9	136	167	582	19·2	182	131	18	469	15·5
1901 ..	30590	864	28·2	122	141·2	556	18·1	141	107	17	466	14·9
1902 ..	31104	878	28·2	127	144·6	620	19·9	209	135	11	496	15·9
1903 ..	31656	865	27·3	77	89	440	13·8	160	125	17	332	10·4
1904 ..	32142	867	26·9	124	143	582	18·1	158	115	19	486	15·1
1905 ..	32637	842	25·7	93	110·4	445	13·6	149	105	19	359	10·9
Averages for years 1896-1905 }	30462	835	27·3	121	145·9	549	18·2	167	118	16	453	14·8
1906 ..	33149	799	24·1	107	133·9	452	13·6	152	108	14	358	10·7

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

At Census of 1901 the total population at all ages was 30,590; Number of inhabited houses, 6,236; Average number of persons per house, 4·9. Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 2,715.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.—St. Bartholomew's General Hospital, Rochester; Union Workhouse Infirmary, Strood; St. William's Infectious Hospital, Rochester; Fort Pitt Military Hospital, Rochester.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.—Medway Union Workhouse Infirmary, Chatham.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? That for Strood Locality is, but that for the Medway Locality is not.

TABLE II. ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	WHOLE DISTRICT.				MEDWAY.				STROOD.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
1896 ..	28440	818	463	112	16600	403	255	50	11840	415	208	62
1897 ..	28870	794	405	117	16799	405	243	68	12071	389	162	49
1898 ..	29300	800	509	145	16998	402	287	66	12302	398	222	79
1899 ..	29730	809	550	161	17197	415	309	79	12533	394	241	82
1900 ..	30160	813	469	136	17396	393	262	71	12764	420	207	65
1901 ..	30590	864	466	122	17598	436	253	47	12992	428	213	75
1902 ..	31104	878	496	127	17893	460	289	63	13211	418	207	64
1903 ..	31656	865	332	77	18080	452	182	38	13576	413	150	39
1904 ..	32142	867	486	124	18299	427	262	55	13843	440	224	69
1905 ..	32637	842	359	93	18520	446	202	43	14117	396	157	50
Averages of Years 1896 to 1905. }	30462	835	453	121	17538	423	254	58	12924	411	199	63
1906 ..	33149	799	358	107	18749	396	193	53	14400	403	165	54

TABLE III.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.		No. of Cases Removed to Hospital.	
	At all ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	MEDWAY.	STROOD.	MEDWAY. (H)	STROOD. (W)
Diphtheria	72		20	41	1	10		19	53	13	38
Erysipelas	27			3	4	17	3	7	20		
Scarlet Fever	61		10	41	4	6		41	20	37	12
Enteric Fever	34			7	12	14	1	8	26	4	17
Puerperal Fever....	1					1		1	0		
Plithisis (voluntary)	22		1	6	7	8		7	15		
Totals	217		31	98	28	56	4	83	134	54	67

Isolation Hospital--S. William's, Rochester, the Hospital of the Rochester and Chatham Joint Hospital Board.

TABLE IV.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at Subjoined Ages.								Deaths in Localities (at all ages).		Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.		Medway.	Strood.	
Measles	3	2	1							3	1
Scarlet fever	1			1				1			3
Whooping-cough	1	1								1	
Diphtheria & membranous croup ..	8		5	3				2	6	8	
Enteric Fever	5				2	2	1	3	2	6	
Epidemic Influenza	1						1	1			
Diarrhœa	40	36	2			1	1	17	23	5	
Enteritis											1
Other septic diseases	14	1	1		3	5	4	9	5	31	
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	32		2	2	11	13	4	19	13	6	
Other tubercular diseases	16	3	6	3	3	1		5	11	7	
Cancer, malignant disease	23					15	8	15	8	13	
Bronchitis	21	6		1		3	11	13	8	6	
Pneumonia	21	4	5	2	1	5	4	17	4	4	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	6		1			3	2	2	4	2	
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver ..	6					5	1	4	2	3	
Venereal diseases	2	2							2	1	
Premature births	25	25						11	14		
Diseases and accidents of parturition	3					3		3			
Heart diseases	21				1	13	7	11	10	13	
Accidents	13	1	1		3	3	5	5	8	11	
Suicides	2					2		2		2	
Apoplexy	13					6	7	9	4	3	
Not certified	14	6				6	2	7	7		
All other causes	67	20	3		2	9	33	37	30	26	
All causes	358	107	27	12	26	95	91	193	165	152	

TABLE V.

CITY OF ROCHESTER.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths Under One Year.
All Causes	Certified	25	5	5	5	40	16	5	8	9	4	4	2	4	1	5	2	101
	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
i. Common Infectious Diseases.	{ Measles Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 1
ii. Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{ Diarrhoea, all forms Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis }	..	2	1	..	3	4	..	1	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	25 11
iii. Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	18	1	3	2	24	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
	Congenital Defects	3	1	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
	Injury at Birth	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
	Want of Breast-milk, starvation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
iv. Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus }	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
	Tuberculous Meningitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Tuberculous Peritonitis Tabes Mesenterica }	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Syphilis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
v. Other Causes.	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Convulsions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	1	..	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
	Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	4
	Suffocation, overlaying .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Other Causes	5	1	..	2	8	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
District of Rochester.	Population. Estimated to middle of 1906, 33149. Births in the year { legitimate 767. illegitimate 32. Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants, 99. illegitimate infants, 8. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 358.	29	6	5	5	45	16	5	6	8	9	4	2	4	1	5	2	107
District (or sub-division) of Medway Locality.	Population, estimated to middle of 1906, 18749. Births in the year { legitimate, 386. illegitimate, 10. Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants, 51. illegitimate infants, 2. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 193.	14	2	2	2	21	7	3	5	3	3	2	2	3	1	2	1	53
District (or sub-division) of Strood Locality.	Population, estimated to middle of 1906, 14100. Births in the year { legitimate 381. illegitimate 22. Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants, 48. illegitimate infants, 6. Deaths from all causes at all ages, 165.	15	4	3	2	24	9	2	1	5	6	2	1	—	—	3	1	51

District (or sub-division) of Strood Locality.
Population, estimated to middle of 1936, 14,400.

Births in the year	{ legitimate 381.
Deaths in the year of	{ legitimate 22.
	{ legitimate infants, 48.
	{ illegitimate infants, 6.
Deaths from all causes at all ages, 165.	

ST. WILLIAM'S ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Three hundred and twenty eight cases were admitted during the year, being 168 more than in 1905. The average for the last ten years is 260·8.

ROCHESTER.

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Total.
Under 5	11	17	0	28
Five and upwards ..	38	34	21	93

CHATHAM.

Under 5	40	2	3	45
Five and upwards ..	111	14	26	151

FROM NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES.

Under 5	2	0	0	2
Five and upwards ..	6	3	0	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	208	70	50	328

Number of cases from each District—

Rochester	121
Chatham	196
Neighbouring	11
	<hr/>
	328

Several cases were found, after one or two days' observation, to be other than supposed, and were accordingly discharged as soon as possible. Whenever it was thought necessary, bacteriological examinations were made for the confirmation, or the reverse, of the diagnosis of Enteric Fever or Diphtheria.

The Mortality was as follows—

Scarlet Fever ..	1·9 per cent.
Diphtheria ..	13·2 per cent.
Enteric Fever ..	13·3 per cent.

Cases considered to be wrongly diagnosed are not included in these percentages.

Average number of days detained in Hospital—

Scarlet Fever ..	57·8
Diphtheria ..	33
Enteric Fever ..	51·6

Deaths are not included in these averages, nor are cases wrongly diagnosed.

As in former years there was evidence that a considerable number of the Enteric Fever cases arose from the consumption of uncooked shell fish.



Report as to Port Sanitary District.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GUILDHALL, ROCHESTER.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORT SANITARY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you a Report of the Sanitary Work performed during the year 1906.

The vessels inspected in the Port were as follows:—

FOREIGN TRADE—			
British Steam	55	Sailing	90
Foreign Steam	64	Sailing	57
	<hr/> 119		<hr/> 147
COASTING TRADE:—			
British Steam	562	Sailing	236
Foreign Steam	20	Sailing	7
	<hr/> 582		<hr/> 243
Total Steam	701	Total Sailing	390

The following were also boarded by the Sanitary Inspector:—

Barges	1007
Canal Boats	525
Lighters	15
Fishing Boats	26
Water Boats	2
	<hr/> 1575
Total number of vessels inspected ..	2666
Total number in 1905	3633
Total number in 1904	3029

NUMBER AND NATIONALITY OF VESSELS:—

British, 2518; Norwegian, 28; Swedish, 27; Danish, 14; Russian, 14; German, 35; French, 8; Dutch, 8; Belgian, 7; Finnish, 7. Total, 2666.

REPORT AS TO THE EXECUTION OF THE CANAL BOATS ACTS FOR THE YEAR 1906.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INSPECTOR:—HENRY EVANS, ISLINGHAM HOUSE,
FRINDSBURY, ROCHESTER.

Remuneration .. £4 per Annum.

The Inspector is on the River daily and overhauls the boats when he comes across them. In addition to this, many of them are periodically visited by the Medical Officer of Health. These boats are chiefly employed in carrying coals from ship to wharf in the River Medway, and seldom leave the District. A few, however, trade to Tonbridge, London, and intermediate places.

No boats have been detained during the year.

Number of new boats registered	1
„ of boats re-registered owing to structural alterations ..	0
„ „ „ „ other reasons ..	4
„ „ registered at December 31st, 1906 ..	274
„ „ inspected	525
„ „ conforming to Acts and Regulations ..	427
„ „ with one or more infringements ..	98
<hr/>	
Number of women on boats inspected	5
„ children between 5 and 12	0
„ „ under 5	3
<hr/>	
Total number of infringements	103
Number of infringements remedied	101

CLASSIFIED LIST OF INFRINGEMENTS.

Absence of Certificate, Act 77, Sec. 3	..	..	4
Certificate not identifying Owner with boat	..	..	1
Marking, Act 77, Sec. 3	..	..	23
Cleanliness, Reg. 11	..	..	30
Painting, Reg. 9	..	..	14
Light and Ventilation, Reg. 3	..	..	3
Dilapidated, Reg. 11	..	..	2
Defective floors and bulkheads	..	..	3
Bilges under cabin floor to cleanse..	..	..	1
Sleeping berths to paint or limewash	..	..	3
Defective skylights or scuttles	..	..	3
No proper drinking water vessels	..	..	2
No proper sleeping berths	..	..	3
Leaky decks causing wet berths	..	..	5
Food cupboards to cleanse or limewash	..	..	2
Stores and funnels to renew	..	..	1
Defective seat-lockers and panelling	..	..	2
Cabin re-fitted	..	..	1
			103

GENERAL SANITARY WORK OF THE PORT.

Systematic Inspections of the Shipping in the Port are made by me, and vessels specially visited as occasion seems to require.

WATER BOATS.—Two of these are employed in supplying ships with water for drinking purposes. This water is drawn from one or other of the two Public Water Works of the City. The boats have been inspected eight times during the year, and are always found to be clean and in good condition.

CASES OF SICKNESS.—Thirty-two cases came under notice on board vessels in the Port, and in each case a private doctor was advised or the patient removed to Hospital.

The cases were : Colds, 9 ; Accidents, 5 ; Influenza, 3 ; Rheumatism, 3 ; Liver Complaint, 3 ; Ulcers, 2 ; Neuralgia, 1 ; Fireman's Cramp, 1 ; Kidney Complaint, 1 ; Debility, 1 ; Abscess, 1 ; Boils, 1 ; Gastritis, 1.

Your Inspector attends to the removal of serious cases. He has knowledge of the principles of first aid to the sick and injured.

VESSELS FROM INFECTED PORTS.—The following vessels were specially boarded and their crews physically examined on account of coming from infected Ports or having suspicious cases of sickness on board :—

April 2nd.—s.s. “ Kiora ” from Rosario. Crew found all well. Peaks, lazarettes, fore-castle heads and bilges cleaned and disinfected. Drinking water tanks emptied and refilled.

April 7th.—The sailing ship “ Bannockburn ” from Iquique *via* Hamburg arrived in the River with a dead body on board. Remainder of Crew all well. The body was removed to the Public Mortuary, and at a Coroner's Inquest the cause of death was found to be Heart Disease. The vessel was thoroughly cleansed and disinfected and a quantity of old clothes and bedding destroyed.

May 25th.—s.s. “ Alice ” from Libau. Crew all well.

July 5th.—Russian ship “ King's County ” from Louvisa. Two cases of non-infectious sickness on board.

August 10th.—Ship “ Alarm ” from Roscoff. Crew all well.

October 8th.—Russian ship “ Deupark ” from Riga. Crew all well.

November 12th.—Swedish ship “ Sagona ” from Archangel. Crew all well.

November 12th.—Russian ship “ Albion ” from Rafso. Two cases of non-infectious sickness on board,

PASSENGERS.—As far as known 59 passengers arrived on ships from foreign and 92 on vessels from coastwise.

CARGOES.—Grain, flour, potatoes, fruit, sugar, and fish were examined and found in good condition except several bags of potatoes, and a Smack's cargo of sprats. The former were taken out to sea and thrown overboard, and the latter sold for manure.

PROVISIONS.—The provisions of 7 foreign bound vessels were examined before departure and found to be in good condition.

The manure nuisance at Otterham and Halstow continues, but is probably less than at former times. The attention of The Medical of Health for that District has been drawn to the matter.

Riverside Factories and Creeks have been visited as usual, and the customary observation, with regard to Sanitary accommodation and conditions, maintained.

HOSPITAL SHIP "ELK."—Owing to the difficulties of mooring, it was thought wise to dispose of this vessel. She was accordingly sold and has been broken up. No further hospital provision has been made. When it was decided to dispose of the "Elk" the Assistant Inspector, who also acted as caretaker of the ship, was discharged. The work of the Port is now done by one Inspector only, and in an open rowing boat. This accounts for the fewer number of inspections in 1906; and in this connection I think it desirable to point out that the work is not unattended by danger to your Inspector, who has to navigate his small craft alone and board ships in all states of tide and weather.

The following Table shews the number of notices served by the Port Sanitary Inspector during the year, on vessels other than Canal Boats, and the nuisances met and dealt with.

	Foreign. Coast. Barges. Total.			
Forecastles or cabins to cleanse	43	53	69	165
Forecastles or cabins to paint or limewash	1	2	4	7
Defective light in cabins or forecastles	1	2	2	5
Defective ventilation in cabins or forecastles	16	5	2	23
Defective ventilation of holds	2	0	0	2
Leaky decks causing wet berths	1	11	4	16
Drinking water casks condemned	0	1	0	1
Drinking water tanks to cleanse	18	14	38	70
Defective bulkheads	2	5	0	7
Insufficient sleeping accommodation	0	1	0	1
Stoves or funnels to provide for cabin or forecastle	0	3	2	5
To cleanse hammocks or bedding	5	7	0	12
To remove ship's stores from crew space	1	4	0	5
To remove lamps from sleeping berths	0	0	1	1
To remove paints from forecastle	0	1	0	1
W.C's. to cleanse or disinfect	23	56	0	79
Peaks and Lazarettes to cleanse or limewash	2	1	0	3
Side scuttles and deck prisms to refit	3	39	0	42
Bilges to cleanse and disinfect	9	7	3	19
Iron decks over berths to line	3	1	0	4
Defective floors in cabins or forecastles	3	7	5	15
Hawse pipes leaking into forecastle	0	3	0	3
Leaky paul and windlass bits	6	17	0	23
Food cupboards to cleanse, ventilate or limewash	13	18	21	52
Defective W.C. pans or fittings	2	3	0	5
Cable stage to cleanse or limewash	1	4	0	5
Dirty old beds destroyed	11	6	0	17
Defective scuppers in forecastle	3	1	0	4
Defective skylights	1	0	3	4
Dilapidated cabins	0	0	1	1
Sleeping berths to paint or limewash	5	2	5	12
Food cupboards to erect	0	3	0	3
Accumulation of filth to remove from cookhouse	4	1	0	5
Accumulation of rubbish to remove from alleyway	7	1	0	8
To provide covers to drinking water tanks	0	2	3	5
Skylights to glaze	0	1	11	12
Bottom boards to fit in sleeping berths	1	3	2	6
Defective seat-lockers and panelling in cabins	0	1	5	6
Dirty old clothes destroyed	5	3	0	8
Bow lockers to cleanse and limewash	2	6	0	8
Defective chain trunks in forecastle	2	0	0	2
Cattle pens and hen coops to cleanse and limewash	2	0	0	2
Leaky cabin tops	1	3	2	6
Vessel fumigated	0	0	1	1
	199	298	184	681

VEGETABLES DESTROYED.—About 9 bushels of cabbages, turnips and potatoes.

All notices except 12 were complied with.

Medical Inspection at Sheerness:—

	Vessels Inspected.	Not Inspected.
1906.	227	39
1905.	203	47
1904.	180	35
1903.	216	53
1902.	200	55

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

SIDNEY PRITCHETT.

